

Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 DOTE-00 IO-10 OMB-01 A-01

OPR-02 SY-05 USSS-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 OC-05 CCO-00 /085 W

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O R 191635Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3865

INFO DIA DOD WASHDC

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 8277

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

DIA DOD FOR DIN-2D4/DIR-3B3

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, AR

SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 5: ABORTIVE AIR FORCE REVOLT

1. AT NOON LOCAL TIME SITUATION AS FOLLOWS: AF BRIGADIER CAPELLINI AND HIS SUPPORTERS CONTINUE TO HOLD MORON, AEROPARQUE, AND, REPORTEDLY, AIR BASE IN MENDOZA. THEY REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE AUTHORITY OF NEW AF CINC AGOSTI. AT SAME TIME, NEITHER MRS. PERON NOR THREE CINCS HAVE ISSUED ORDERS TO SUPPRESS DISSIDENTS. IT IS DOUBTFUL THIS DANGEROUS IMPASSE CAN CONTINUE VERY LONG.

2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE CLOSE TO ARMY AND NAVY CINCS, ILL-
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CONCEIVED MOVE BY CAPELLINI HAS PLACED MILITARY IN DIFFICULT

DILEMMA. ON ONE HAND, THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO FOLLOW AIR FORCE IN CARRYING OUT A COUP, BUT NEITHER DO THEY WISH TO KILL FELLOW OFFICERS IN PUTTING DOWN REBELLION. ISSUE IS COMPLICATED BY FACT THAT CAPELLINI AND HIS GROUP REPRESENT AN EXTREME CATHOLIC NATIONALIST STRAIN IN MILITARY WHOSE VIEWS NOT ACCEPTABLE EVEN TO MAJORITY OF OFFICERS WHO FAVOR COUP. AS RDSULT OF ABOVE FACTORS, CINCS HAVE FOR MOMENT TAKEN POSITION THAT NEXT MOVES ARE UP TO MRS. PERON. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, HER OPTIONS WOULD SEEM TO COME DOWN TO THE FOLLOWING TWO: A) TO ORDER ARMY TO SUPPRESS REBELLION, IN WHICH CASE THERE WOULD BE LARGE QUESTION AS TO WHETHER ARMY WOULD OBEY; AND B) TO STEP DOWN AS PRESIDENT.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF THIS MORNING, UCR BLOC LEADER ANTONIO TROCCOLI IN A SENSE CONFIRMED ABOVE ANALYSIS--AT LEAST IN PART. BALL, HE SAID, WAS NOW IN GOVERNMENT'S COURT AND MILITARY PROBABLY WOULD MAKE NO MOVE UNTIL GOVERNMENT SHOWED ITS HAND. TROCCOLI SAID HE CONVINCED THERE COULD BE NO SOLUTION UNLESS MRS. PERON STEPPED ASIDE. IF SHE WOULD DO SO, HE THOUGHT ARMY WOULD BE WILLING TO LET ANOTHER CIVILIAN, PROBABLY LUDER, TAKE OVER AS PRESIDENT. IF SHE REFUSED, HOWEVER, THEN SITUATION WOULD BECOME VERY DANGEROUS INDEED, WITH INCREASING LIKELIHOOD OF OUT-AND-OUT MILITARY TAKEOVER.

4. DAO SOURCES AND EMBASSY SOURCES IN SENATE REPORT THAT VIDELA TALKED TO SEVERAL SENATORS LAST NIGHT AND TOLD THEM ARMY EXPECTED CIVILIANS TO NOW PRODUCE A SOLUTION--I.E., TO MOVE MRS. PERON ASIDE.

5. DAO SOURCES TEND TO CONFIRM ANALYSIS IN PARAGRAPHS ABOVE.

6. AS CABLE BEING PREPARED, AF PLANES ARE BUZZING CASA ROSADA AND SURROUNDING AREA DROPPING MORE LEAFLETS.
HILL

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Message Attributes

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